

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2328

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR KN KS UN AS

SUBJ: KOREA IN 29TH GA: DPRK LOBBYING WITH AUSTRALIANS

1. AUSTRALIAN FIRST SECRETARY JOHN CAMPBELL TOLD MISOFF JULY 1 OF RECENT CALL ON AUSTRALIAN PERM REP MCINTYRE BY DPRK PERM OBSERVER KWON MIN JUN. ACCORDING TO CAMPBELL AMB. KWON INDICATED THAT AS LONG AS THE UN WAS INVOLVED IN KOREA, THE UN DEBATE ON KOREA WOULD CONTINUE. KWON SAID IT WAS CLEAR FROM THE PROVISIONS OF THE CHARTER THAT THE UN PRESENCE SHOULD BE TERMINATED AND "THE BLUE HELMETS" OF ITS FORCE REMOVED. IN RESPONSE TO AMB. MCINTYRE'S QUESTION ON WHETHER CHANGING THE COLOR OF THE HELMETS FROM BLUE TO GREEN WOULD SUFFICE, KWON INDICATED DPRK BELIEVED ALL FOREIGN TROOPS SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN; BUT AS FAR AS UN INVOLVEMENT WAS CONCERNED HE REITERATED THAT "THE BLUE HELMETS SHOULD BE TAKEN FROM KOREA."

2. ASKED FOR HIS INTERPRETATION OF THIS EXCHANGE, CAMPBELL WHO IS KOREAN LANGUAGE OFFICER AND HAS SERVED IN SEOUL, SAID HE BELIEVED THAT IF UNITED NATIONS COMMAND (UNC) TERMINATED DPRK WOULD NOT BELIEVE IT NECESSARY TO HAVE ANNUAL UNGA DEBATE.

3. CONTINUING HIS REPORT OF THE KWON-MCINTYRE MEETING, CAMPBELL SAID THAT KWON ALSO COMMENTED ON DPRK'S RECENT INITIATIVE PROPOSING THAT US AND DPRK CONCLUDE A PEACE AGREE-
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MENT. KWON SAID FOLLOWING WITHDRAWAL FROM KOREA OF CHINESE

VOLUNTEERS, ONLY TWO ACTUAL PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT REMAINED. KWON IMPLIED HE MEANT (ACCORDING TO CAMPBELL) THAT THE TWO PARTIES WERE THE US AND THE DPRK, APPARENTLY EQUATING THE US WITH UNC. KWON SAID DPRK PEACE INITIATIVE WAS A MEANS OF TAKING PRATICAL STEPS TOWARD TURNING UNSTABLE PEACE INTO DURABLE PEACE. MCINTYRE ASKED IF THIS COULD ALSO COME THROUGH DIRECT NEGOTITATIONS BETWEEN TWO KOREAS WITH THE GOAL OF UNIFYING KOREA. KWON INDICATED THAT WHEN DPRK PUT FORWARD ITS PEACE PROPOSAL IT DID NOT SAY IT WANTED TO TALK ABOUT UNIFICATION BUT JUST A DESIRE TO HAVE A DURABLE PEACE.

4. ON SUBJECT OF AUSTRALIAN/DPRK NEGOTIATIONS TOWARD DIPLO-MATIC RECOGNITION CAMPBELL SAID HE EXPECTED NEGOTIATIONS TO BE CONCLUDED VERY SOON. ROK AMBASSADOR IN CANBERRA RECENTLY ASKED FOREIGN OFFICE IF IT WOULD DELAY ANNOUNCEMENT OF RECOG-NITION UNTIL AFTER 29TH UNGA. FOREIGN OFFICE RESPONDED THAT THIS NOT POSSIBLE. CAMPBELL SPECULATED HOWEVER THAT IF GOA/DPRK NEGOTIATIONS DELAYED AND IF USG FELT THAT ANNOUNCEMENT OF RECOGNITION WOULD NEGATIVELY AFFECT CONCLUSION OF SOME AGREEMENT ON KOREA, HE BELIEVED GOA WOULD DELAY ANNOUNCEMENT TO ASSIST USG IN SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF SUCH NEGOTIATIONS.

5. COMMENT: CAMPBELL, WHO HAS IN PAST BEEN ACCURATE AND ASTUTE REPORTER, MADE CLEAR THAT MUCH OF FOREGOING ATTRIBUTED TO KWON WAS IMPLICIT RATHER THAN EXPLICIT. WE NEVERTHELESS FIND PARTICULARLY INTERESTING KWON'S INDICATIONS THAT DPRK MIGHT NOT FEEL COMPELLED TO RAISE FOREIGN TROOPS ISSUE IN UNGA IN ABSENCE OF UNC ISSUE.
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